NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
LIBRARY

Manuscripts
No. 118

Date processed: May, 1980

I. Title Wooster Family Records, 1782-1910

II. The papers of Frederick Wooster Owen (b. 1840)
a gift.

III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1/2 foot
Approximate number of items: 500 and one bound volume.

IV. Restrictions: none

V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of
in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of
the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated
to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

VI. Press release was issued on

VII. Biographical note: The Wooster family in Connecticut was descended from
Edward Wooster (1622-1689), one of the original settlers of Derby,
Conn. The most famous member of the family was General David Wooster,
who was born in Stratford in 1711. He was the son of Abraham Wooster
and a grandson of Edward. David Wooster graduated from Yale in 1738,
fight in the French and Indian Wars, and in 1746 married Mary Clap,
daughter of President Thomas Clap of Yale. He became a successful
merchant in New Haven and also served as Collector of the Customs for
the Port. He entered the armed forces again during the Revolution
and died in Danbury in 1777 from wounds suffered during a battle in
Ridgefield. Two children survived him: Thomas and Mary.

Edward Wooster had at least six sons who had children: Jonas, Thomas
Silvester, Timothy, Abraham and Ebenezer. In 1885 a Dr. David Wooster
published a genealogy of Edward's descendants, and in 1897 Dr.
Frederick Wooster Owen (b. 1840), a descendant of Silvester Wooster,
compiled additional genealogical data based on the 1885 genealogy
and further research conducted by him and members of the family who
were scattered throughout the country. He evidently planned to
publish a new genealogy, but never did so. Little is known of Dr.
Owen except that he was the son of Captain William W. Owen and Adeline
Wooster, daughter of Abel Wooster (b. 1780), and that he practiced
medicine in Morristown, New Jersey. He had one brother Col. William H.
Owen, whose letters to an uncle, Col. Charles W. Folsom are in the
collection.

For complete biographies of Gen. David Wooster, see The Dictionary
of American Biography, Vol. 20, p. 524-525, and Dexter, Yale Biograph-

Processed by: Isabelle Gould
VIII: Analysis: The collection, which is housed in one box, consists primarily of papers of Dr. Frederick Wooster Owen, who from 1897 to 1910 collected material on the Wooster family of Connecticut, descendants of Edward Wooster. His records include:

1) Letters from members of the Wooster family concerning their ancestry. These letters are grouped under those written by persons with the surname "Wooster" and those with other surnames and are filed alphabetically by writer. (See Table of Contents). Included with these letters are notes compiled by each writer and enclosed with the letter.

2) Letters and notes from Katharine A. Prichard of Waterbury who researched the Wooster family records in the Naugatuck Valley of Connecticut. These are filed in chronological order and fall between the years 1897-1902.

3) Personal letters from F.W. Owen and his brother, William H. Owen to their uncle, Col. Charles W. Folsom. These letters are filed chronologically and have little to do with the genealogical research.

4) Notes for the genealogy written and/or compiled by F.W. Owen. They are filed by line of descent from sons of Edward Wooster (when indicated); by lists of births, marriages and deaths of later Woosters; and miscellaneous notes concerned chiefly with Owen's search for information about his grandfather, Abel Wooster of New York.

Filed at the end of the collection are a few 18th century documents of New Haven Woosters: David, his wife Mary, and cousin Thomas. All are signed by these individuals and are listed separately under the heading: Wooster Family Papers, 1782-1800.

The numbers in brackets on the right indicate the number of documents in each folder.
Table of Contents

Box I -
Folder A - Manuscript Genealogy - Wooster family compiled by Dr. Frederick Wooster Owen "over a long period ... never printed" n.d., includes chronology of six sons of Edward Wooster (1 bd. vol., ca. 120 p.)

B - F.W. Owen, Incoming Correspondence from Woosters, A - C (filed alphabetically by first name of sender) 1897-1910

C - Correspondence from Woosters, D - H 1897-1909

D - Correspondence from Woosters, J - M 1897-1904

E - Correspondence from Woosters, Ma - W 1897-1902

F - F.W. Owen, Incoming Correspondence from persons other than Woosters, A - C (filed alphabetically by last name of sender) 1897-1903

G - Correspondence/Incoming, D - L 1897-1910)

H - Correspondence/Incoming, M - R 1897-1905

I - Correspondence/Incoming, S 1897-1905

J - Correspondence/Incoming, T - W 1897-1902

K - F.W. Owen, Correspondence from Katharine A. Prichard, Waterbury, 1897-1902 plus enclosed notes for genealogy

L - Katharine A. Prichard, letters to: her work on Wooster genealogy 1897-1900

M - F.W. Owen, Personal Correspondence/Outgoing: to Col. Charles W. Folsom of Cambridge, MA 1884-1903 (including two letters from Louisa G. Mrs. Frederick - Owen, 1884-1825)

N - William H. Owen, Correspondence/Outgoing to Col. Folsom - 1872-1903 (personal) Col. Folsom was evidently an uncle of F.W. and W.H. Owen

O - Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1892-1900 to Charles H. Wooster and George H. Wooster from family members re genealogical research

P - Genealogical Notes kept and compiled by F.W. Owen, Line Of Abram Wooster (son of Edward Wooster)
Box I - continued

Folder Q - Genealogical Notes, Line of Silvester Wooster (son of Edward) n.d. [19]

R - Notes: Line of Timothy Wooster (son of Edward) [6]

S - Births, Marriages, Deaths of 18th and 19th Century Woosters - Lists [27]

S-1 - Births, Marriages, Deaths, continued [36]

T - Miscellaneous Genealogical Notes, n.d. chiefly fragments [52]

U - Newspaper Clippings re Woosters, ca. 1897, 1902 [5]

V - Printed Material - miscellaneous [8]
   - engraving of General David Wooster from the American Literary Magazine
   - printed lists of town and local histories
   - F.W. Owen, printed broadsides re identifying Abel Wooster
   - typed copy of deed from Abel Wooster, 1800
   - two copies of sketch of Wooster coat-of-arms, n.d.

Wooster Family Papers, 1782-1800

Folder W - General David Wooster (1710/11-1777) [2]
   deeds - signed by D.W., Feb. 1, 1782, New Haven, to John Gilbert for land in Cumberland County, N.Y. (MOVED TO OVERSIZE #1)

W-1 - Account of death of General Wooster handwritten and two typed copies [3]
   handwritten copy of inventory of David Wooster's Estate, 1777

X - Deposition, 1800, New Haven re character of Sarah Palmer & Martha Rose, signed by Mary Wooster (Mrs. David) [1]

Y - Thomas Wooster, Account with Jedediah Rice [1]
   New Haven, 1786 - signed by Wooster

W - Continued - Receipt for money received from Maj. Gen. David Wooster, signed B. Trumbull 1775

OVERSIZE #1

- 2 deeds David Wooster, 1782.
  (See Folder W above)